

Message Text

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43

ACTION NEA-05

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PER-05 FBO-01 /012 W

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R 180808Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4951

UNCLAS JIDDA 4028

FOR NEA/EX

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ABLD, SA

SUBJECT: COMMERCIAL OFFICER HOUSING

REF: (A) STATE 182523; (B) DOSCHER-HUNT LETTER SEPT. 9

1. DEPARTMENT'S REF (A) INDICATES THAT ACTUAL CONSTRUCTION NEW FAMILY HOUSING ON EMBASSY COMPOUND (DESIGNED TO REPLACE AGEING CRAWFORD HOUSES) NOT LIKELY TO COMMENCE AT LEAST BEFORE EARLY 1974.

2. EMBASSY'S NEW COMMERCIAL OFFICER, DENNIS P. MURPHY, IS FOR TIME BEING RESIDING IN CRAWFORD HOUSE ON COMPOUND. THIS, HOWEVER, POSES A NUMBER OF DISADVANTAGES IN VIEW OF REQUIREMENTS OF HIS POSITION: COMMERCIAL OFFICER IS NORMALLY EXPECTED TO BE PARTICULARLY ACTIVE IN ENTERTAINING MEMBERS OF LARGE SAUDI AND AMERICAN BUSINESS COMMUNITIES, AS WELL AS INDIVIDUAL BUSINESSMEN AND TRADE GROUPS THAT ARRIVE IN JIDDA ALMOST DAILY. MURPHY CURRENTLY HANDLING LARGE GM DELEGATION WHICH DISCUSSING POSSIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING ASSEMBLY PLANT IN SAUDI ARABIA; AT SAME TIME HE IS ALSO IN CHARGE OF VISITS BY EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF U.S. AGRIBUSINESS COUNCIL, AND VICE PRESIDENT OF FOOD MACHINERY CORP.

3. CRAWFORD HOUSES, HOWEVER, HAVE ONLY SMALL LIVING ROOM, AND NO SERVANTS' QUARTERS WHATSOEVER. (MURPHY'S REPRESENTATIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES AND FAMILY SIZE

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REQUIRE THEM TO MAINTAIN AT LEAST ONE LIVE-IN SERVANT -- THIS PERSON AT PRESENT LIVING ON PORCH, AND SHARES

SINGLE BATHROOM WITH REST OF FAMILY.)

4. WOULD APPRECITE THEREFORE NEA'S AUTHORIZING INCREASE
IN POST ALLOTMENT TO PERMIT RENTAL OF SUITABLE OFF-
COMPOUND HOUSE. A NUMBER OF POSSIBILITIES AVAILABLE,
WITH ANNUAL RENTS IN VICINITY OF \$5,500 (ON JUNE 30,
EMBASSY RELINQUISHED OFF-COMPOUND LEASE FOR RESIDENCE OF
POLITICAL OFFICER DEFORD; IN TERMS OF LOCATION, SIZE,
AND PHYSICAL CONDITION, FORMER DEFORD RESIDENCE WOULD NOT
HAVE BEEN SUITABLE FOR MARRIED OFFICER WITH CHILDREN.)

5. PLEASE ADVISE.
THACHER

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